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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/615,793	07/10/2003	Chung-Yi Lai	TAIW 486	3509

23995 7590 01/28/2008
RABIN & Berdo, PC
1101 14TH STREET, NW
SUITE 500
WASHINGTON, DC 20005

EXAMINER

SAFAIPOUR, HOUSHANG

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2625

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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01/28/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/615,793

Applicant(s)

LAI ET AL.

Examiner

Houshang Safaipoor

Art Unit

2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 November 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2 and 6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2 and 6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. The indicated allowability of claim 5 (now canceled) is withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference to Jackson et al. (US Patent No. 5,624,196). Rejections based on the newly cited reference(s) follow.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1, 2 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ahn (US Patent No. 6,519,047) and further in view of Jackson et al. (US Patent No. 5,624,196).

Regarding claim 1, Ahn discloses a multi-function peripheral (abstract), comprising:
a casing having a recording media path (fig. 1, starting at cassette 23 and ending at discharge tray 30) which has two ends forming respectively a recording media inlet and a recording media exit located on the exterior of the casing for receiving recording media into the casing and discharging the recording media out of the casing (fig. 3, cassette 23 and discharge tray 30);

a transparent board located on the recording media path and adjacent to the recording media inlet (fig. 3, transparent plate 31, col. 5 lines 55-57);

a scanning module (scanner 16) located on the transparent board for selectively scanning the recording media; and

a printing module (print unit 11) located on the recording media path and adjacent to the recording media exit (tray 30) for selectively printing the recording media, the recording media being moved on the recording media path and discharged out of the casing through the recording media exit (tray 30). Please refer to col. 5 for description of different components.

Regarding locations of the scan head and the print head, contrary to applicant's disclosure that shows both heads on the upper side of the board 20 (fig. 2), the cited reference discloses that the heads are located on the either side of the base frame 20 facing each other. Applicant has not disclosed that positioning the scan head and the print head on one side, provides an advantage, is used for a particular purpose or solves a stated problem. One of ordinary skill in the art, furthermore, would have expected Applicant's invention to perform equally well with both scan and print heads positioned as taught by Ahn.

Ahn discloses a plurality of guiding means located on the recording media path (fig. 4, rollers 22, col. 8 lines 5-10). Ahn does not provide any details pertaining to the structure of these rollers. Jackson discloses an apparatus for advancing a sheet of print media (abstract) and further discloses guiding means including two rollers which have a gap formed there between to allow the recording media to pass through by rolling, each of the rollers including an axle with a plurality of pressing elements mounted thereon for channeling the recording media to move in a rolling fashion (fig. 3, rollers 66 with axel 64 and rollers 72 with axel 78, col. 5 line 50 to col. 6 line 31). Therefore it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use these rollers as guiding means in Ahn's shuttle scanning machine to facilitate advancing the document.

Regarding claim 2, Ahn discloses the multi-function peripheral of claim 1, wherein the recording media path further includes a panel (23, fig. 1) and a depressing member (29), the depressing member depressing the recording media on the panel so that the recording media is moved on the recording media path to the scanning module (16).

Regarding claim 6, Ahn discloses the multi-function peripheral of claim 1, wherein the transparent board is a flat glass board (fig. 1, transparent member 31).

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Houshang Safaipoor whose telephone number is (571)272-7412. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. from 6:00am to 2:30pm.

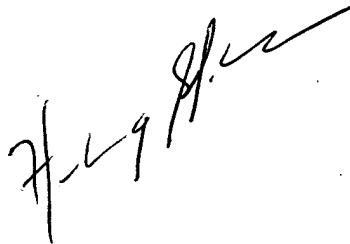
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Moore can be reached on (571)272-7437. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Houshang Safaipoor
Patent Examiner
January 9, 2008

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H. Safaipoor', is written over the printed name and date.